

News Release

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Contact:

Michael Bacich – City of Riverside Sustainability Officer
(951) 826-5422

City of Riverside Chosen to Participate In STAR Communities Pilot Program

[LINK TO THIS PR AVAILABLE HERE](#)

Riverside, Calif. – The City of Riverside has been named as one of 25 participants in a new pilot program designed to evaluate, quantify, and improve the livability and sustainability of communities throughout the United States.

The Sustainability Tools for Assessing & Rating (STAR) Communities Program was created through a partnership of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), the National League of Cities, the Center for American Progress, and the ICLEI Governments for Sustainability out of a growing interest from their member organizations and communities looking for a way to rank and evaluate their ongoing sustainability efforts.

As one of the pilot program participants, Riverside will be able to test out the STAR Communities rating system and have access to new technical guides, and online reporting tools when the program commences November 1.

“These will help us set baselines, adopt targets, and provide new ways to measure and validate our progress across a standard and comprehensive set of goals and objectives,” said Riverside’s Sustainability Officer Mike Bacich. “Our data will then become part of the initial STAR Community Index which future participants will be able to rate themselves and their progress with.”

The STAR Communities program envisions a ranking system similar to the USGBC’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program that rates systems for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings, homes, and neighborhoods. Future STAR Communities ratings could help cities and counties when applying for state and federal funding for green and sustainability projects.

For additional information about Riverside Public Utilities follow us on Facebook and on Twitter at #RPUNews.

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 106,000 metered electric customers and up to 64,000 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com

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